

(continued from the front)

was not right with God (Acts 8:21). Paul warned entire congregations about false brothers among them (Galatians 2:4). John warned about those who “went out from us, but . . . were not of us” (1 John 2:19). The early church didn’t take outward appearances at face value. They looked deeper—at hearts, fruit, and faithfulness. Maybe we need to do the same.

It’s time to preach the gospel to the church. We cannot assume the people sitting in front of us every Sunday understand the gospel. We cannot assume they’ve truly obeyed it. We cannot assume they’ve truly repented. We cannot assume that baptism was anything more than peer pressure or family expectation. It may be that our greatest evangelistic need right now is inside our own church buildings. Because if people have been sitting in the pews for 10, 20, or even 40 years but have never truly surrendered to Christ, it is not time to comfort them. It is time to confront them—not out of anger, not out of pride, but out of deep, urgent love for their souls.

The call to wake up. If this describes you, God is calling you to wake up. “Awake, you who sleep, arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light” (Ephesians 5:14).

Your family’s faith won’t save you. Your Sunday attendance won’t save you. Your reputation won’t save you. Only Jesus Christ can. So come out of the world, take up your cross, and follow Him!

Examine your heart. Examine your priorities. Examine your fruit. A church full of unconverted members is not a church full of hope; it’s a church full of mission opportunities. Maybe the first people we need to evangelize are the ones sitting near us in a pew.

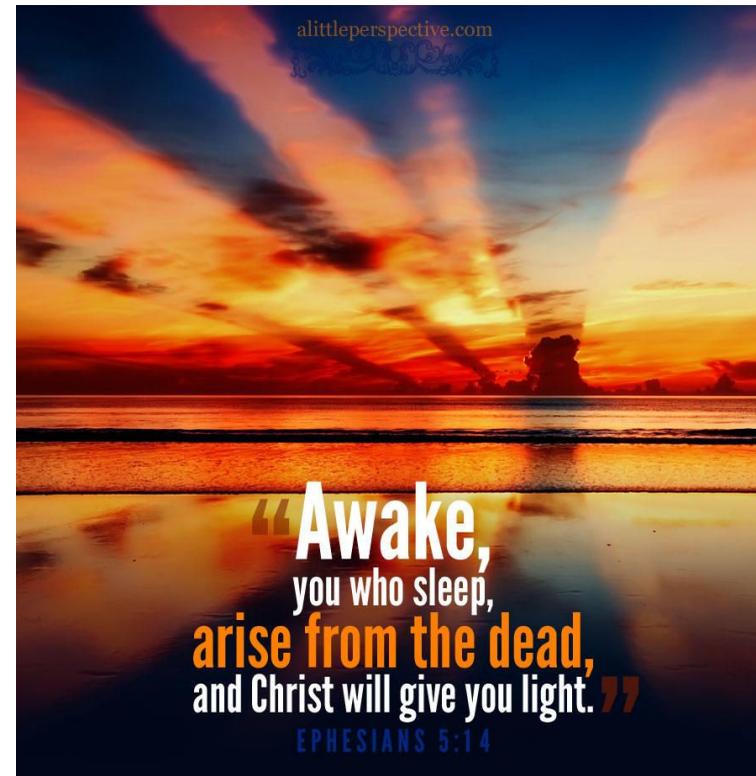
Brad Harrub
via the church of Christ at Greenwood



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**Maybe We Should Start Evangelizing
the Unconverted in Our Own Churches (continued)**



Elders

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Phil Degelia
Tim Simmons

Deacons

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(Building and Grounds)
Jeff Kiel
(Building and Grounds)
Dean Rosser
(Safety)
Roland Snipes
(Benevolence)
Keith Tolbert
(Education)

Minister

Bryan Winn

Secretary

Carrie DePass

The early church didn’t assume people were saved. In Acts 8, Simon the Sorcerer was baptized. He was in the church. He participated. But his heart

(continued on the back)